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Area Manager of the Clemson SBDC Greenwood office is SBA S.C. Small Business Partner of the Year

GREENWOOD – J.M. "Mickey" Conway, Area Manager of Clemson University's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Upper Savannah Office in Greenwood, is the 2007 SBA Small Business Partner of the Year for South Carolina. The SBDC, a U.S. Small Business Administration resource partner, assists small businesses and promotes economic development in the Upper Savannah area.

Conway began his career with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at the Alabama SBDC while completing his MBA in Management at the University of South Alabama. After working in the small business private sector, he returned to the Alabama SBDC program as a full time consultant. He joined the Clemson University Upper Savannah SBDC office in April 2002.

Fluent in Spanish, Conway holds dual citizenship in the U.S. and Colombia. He has worked extensively in Hispanic small business outreach both inside and outside the United States. He has been a guest at three international meetings of the new Mexican SBDC programs and accompanied the state's spring 2006 trade mission to the state of Jalisco, Mexico. Conway has also worked with the South Carolina SBDC State Director's office on its Peace Corps Fellowship Latino Initiative team, and he has helped the USC Moore School of Business to survey the Hispanic/Latino population in South Carolina in order to better understand their economic impact on the state.

Conway recently completed his Economic Development Finance Professional certification from the National Development Council. Last fall, he co-presented a seminar to train other SBDC counselors across the U.S. in "the Art of Loan Analysis" at a conference in Houston, Texas.

Conway resides in Greenwood.

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The SBA South Carolina District Office is holding the awards ceremony at the Salute to Small Business on Wednesday, April 11 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. Please call Susan Chavis at (803) 765-5373 for more information.